

## Message Text

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ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 VO-03 SCA-01 CPR-02 USIA-12 AID-20 EB-11

SS-15 NSC-10 STR-08 RSR-01 RSC-01 /110 W

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R 101730Z JUL 73

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5498

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, EEC, XA

SUBJ: EC POLICY RE LDCS -- COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON WISHES TO VISIT  
WASHINGTON IN AUGUST

REF: A) EC BRUSSELS 3674; B) EC BRUSSELS 3410; C) EC BRUSSELS  
2996; D) OUAGADOUGOU 1095

1. SUMMARY. CLAUDE CHEYSSON, WHO RECENTLY SUCCEEDED DENIAU AS EC COMMISSIONER FOR LDC QUESTIONS, WISHES TO VISIT WASHINGTON SOMETIME IN AUGUST FOR AN EXCHANGE OF VIEWS ON OUR RESPECTIVE POLICIES TOWARD LDCS. SUCH A VISIT WOULD BE PARTICULARLY TIMELY SINCE IT WOULD COME AFTER THE LATE-JULY "PRE-NEGOTIATION" CONFERENCE WITH THE YAOUNDE COUNTRIES AND THE COMMONWEALTH ASSOCIABLES BUT PRECEDE THE OPENING OF FORMAL EC NEGOTIATIONS WITH THESE NATIONS. CHEYSSON WISHES TO IMPROVE US/EC COOPERATION ON LDCS AND NARROW DIFFERENCES WHERE POSSIBLE. ACTION REQUESTED: EARLY ADVICE AS TO WHETHER WASHINGTON IS AGREEABLE TO SUCH A VISIT AND SPECIFIC SUGGESTIONS REGARDING DATES. END SUMMARY.

2. EC COMMISSION MEMBER CHEYSSON, PRIMARILY RESPONSIBLE FOR LDC QUESTIONS, HAS APPROACHED AMBASSADOR GREENWALD TO SAY THAT HE WOULD LIKE TO VISIT WASHINGTON IN AUGUST FOR ONE OR TWO DAYS. HIS PURPOSE IS TO INITIATE EXCHANGES OF VIEWS WITH KEY PEOPLE IN THE US GOVERNMENT ABOUT US AND COMMUNITY POLICIES AND ATTITUDES TOWARD RELATIONS WITH LDCS. WITHIN THIS GENERAL FRAMEWORK, TALKS WOULD COVER SUCH TOPICS AS: TRADE AND COMMODITY ASPECTS  
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OF EC ASSOCIATION AGREEMENTS; GENERALIZED PREFERENCE SCHEMES;

AND DEVELOPMENT ASSISTANCE.

3. WASHINGTON DISCUSSIONS WITH CHEYSSON IN AUGUST WOULD SEEM PARTICULARLY TIMELY FROM SEVERAL STANDPOINTS. CHEYSSON HAS BEEN IN HIS JOB ONLY A FEW MONTHS. BROAD-RANGING AND INFORMAL EXCHANGES AT THIS EARLY STAGE WOULD PROVIDE A VALUABLE OPPORTUNITY TO COVER US/EC DIFFERENCES (E.G. ON PREFERENTIAL ARRANGEMENTS) IN THE WIDE CONTEXT OF OVERALL POLICIES RE DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. MOREOVER, AN AUGUST VISIT WOULD BE A GOOD TIME TO GIVE CHEYSSON OUR VIEWS AND TO HEAR ABOUT THE COMMUNITY'S POSITION SINCE IT WOULD FOLLOW THE JULY 23-24 EC COUNCIL MEETING AND THE JULY 25-26 "PRE-NEGOTIATING" CONFERENCE WITH THE AFRICANS BUT PRECEDE OPENING OF THE FORMAL ASSOCIATION NEGOTIATIONS IN SEPTEMBER.

4. AS REPORTED IN REFTELS B AND C, CHEYSSON IS EAGER TO TRY TO WORK WITH US AUTHORITIES IN IMPROVING UNDERSTANDING OF US AND EC DEVELOPMENT POLICIES AND PROGRAMS AND, WHERE POSSIBLE, NARROWING DIFFERENCES AND INCREASING COOPERATION.

5. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE EARLY ADVICE AS TO  
A) WASHINGTON REACTION TO CHEYSSON'S PROPOSAL FOR A VISIT IN AUGUST AND B) IF POSITIVE, SPECIFIC DATES WHICH WE CAN SUGGEST TO HIM.

GREENWALD

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 10 JUL 1973  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** golinofr  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** n/a  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:**  
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**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 73 EC BRUSSELS 3674, 73 EC BRUSSELS 3410, 73 EC BRUSSELS 2996, 73 OUAGADOUGOU 1095  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** golinofr  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 29 AUG 2001  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <29-Aug-2001 by smithrj>; APPROVED <01-Nov-2001 by golinofr>  
**Review Markings:**

Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
30 JUN 2005

**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** EC POLICY RE LDCS -- COMMISSIONER CHEYSSON WISHES TO VISIT WASHINGTON IN AUGUST  
**TAGS:** ETRD, XA, EEC  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005